GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3229
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2003
NEW HERBAL MEDICINES
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified different herbs and prepared formulations from their abstracts during the last one year and till date;

(b) if so, the details of new herbal medicines which have been introduced in the country;

(c) whether education in Ayurvedic, Unani and Homoeopathy disciplines have not become popular in the country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Union Government to promote these systems of medicines in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)&(b): There is no such scheme under implementation.

(c)&(d): There is significant increase in the number of Ayurveda, Unani and Homoeopathy colleges. Presently, there are 211 Ayurvedic, 36 Unani and 182 Homoeopathy colleges in the country.

(e): The Government has taken following steps for the development of Indian Systems of Medicines:

(i) A separate ISM&H Policy 2002, has been announced to provide proper development of ISM&H sector.

(ii) Medicinal Plants Board has been established to facilitate availability of quality raw drugs for domestic and export products.

(iii) Labeling provisions under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules 1945 has been relaxed to meet the requirements of importing countries for marketing of Ayurvedic/herbal medicines in the importing countries.

(iv) Good Manufacturing Practices have been notified.

(v) Enabling provision has been made to recognize private laboratories.

(vi) Ayurvedic Formulary and Pharmacopoeia have been published to bring uniformity and quality standard of Ayurvedic medicines.

(vii) Industry has been encouraged to participate in Fairs and Exhibitions abroad.

(viii) Government have also sent delegations abroad to propagate our systems for the development of Ayurvedic medicines.

(ix) State pharmacies and drug testing laboratories have been assisted.

(x) A number of other schemes have been implemented to upgrade education, research, quality control and drugs standardization.